

Von:

**kevin galalae** (kgalalae@hotmail.com)

Gesendet: Montag, 18. Mai 2009 20:06:29

An: Giovanni de Grandis (tutor.politicalphilo@conted.ox.ac.uk)

Hi Giovanni,

I could not help but notice that Ivor and I have become too dominant in the fora discussions. Would you like me to step back to make room for the others? I don't want to be overbearing. On the other hand, I don't want to withhold valuable contributions. Please let me know how to proceed.

Kevin

Von:

**tutor.politicalphilo** (tutor.politicalphilo@conted.ox.ac.uk)

Gesendet: Dienstag, 19. Mai 2009 00:58:58

An: kevin galalae (kgalalae@hotmail.com)

Hi Kevin,

first of all I am sorry that I had not yet answer to your email from Friday. I have had some troubles with my connection over the weekend and it slept out of my mind. I am very glad that you are enjoying the course so much. I am not teaching online again until next year, but I hope you are still coming to Oxford in August and that we will be able to have a little philosophical chat.

As for your present question, I don't want you to step back or to reduce your contributions. My only suggestions would be two very minor tips. The first is to try not to write messages too long. Let me be clear, most of your message are not too long. A few are a little long and that might discourage those who don't have a lot of time. I also realize that sometimes it is very difficult to develop one's argument in a short space. When you have a long reasoning, my advice is to write the complete argument in an attachment and to give a summary in your post. Those interested will certainly open the attachment and read the whole argument, those with less time or less philosophically minded will read at least the summary and get the essential. (By the way writing a short summary is always a difficult and extremely useful exercise). The other advice is that if you disagree with someone else, unless s/he is someone who is confident and keen on debate (like Ivor, Bruce, Gloria) do not shot all your arrows at them at once: that can be intimidating. Make one objection, trying to single out the one which is more likely to trigger some rethinking and to bring about the most serious difficulty in the position criticized.

Keep enjoying and contributing generously!

Best

Giovanni